

## Message Text

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45

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07

FMC-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 CG-00 OFA-01 DLOS-04 PM-04 H-02

L-03 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-10

OES-05 INT-05 /103 W

----- 062575

R 301506Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5904

INFO COMICEDEFOR

CINCLANT

CNO WASHDC

SECDEF WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

UNCLAS REYKJAVIK 1521

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS PFOR IC UK

SUBJECT: FISHERIES DISPUTE: PRESS WEIGHS RETALIATION FOR UK

RAMMINGS

REF: REYKJAVIK 1516

1. THE ALLEGED RAMMING SUNDAY OF ICELANDIC COAST GUARD VESSEL BY  
BRITISH FRIGATE (REFTEL) HAS PRODUCED WARNINGS IN PRESS FROM TWO  
LEADERS OF COALITION PROGRESSIVE PARTY OF BREAK IN RELATIONS WITH UK  
IF RAMMINGS CONTINUE. ALTHING FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN  
THORARINN THORARINSSON, IN PP'S TIMINN EDITORIAL DECEMBER 30,  
SAID THAT IN WAKE OF LATEST INCIDENT "IT SHOULD BE MADE CLEAR TO  
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BRITISH THAT CONTINUED RAMMINGS WILL LEAD TO BREAK IN DIPLOMATIC

RELATIONS BETWEEN THE (TWO) COUNTRIES. IT WOULD BE BRITAIN'S FAULT IF THIS OCCURRED." IN ANOTHER COLUMN IN TIMINN THE RIGHT-WING PROGRESSIVE AND REYKJAVIK CITY COUNCIL MEMBER ALFRED THORSTEINSSON SAID THAT IMMEDIATE DIPLOMATIC BREAK WAS NOT CALLED FOR BUT SUGGESTED POSSIBLE BOYCOTT OF BRITISH GOODS OR SPECIAL TARIFF ON IMPORTS FROM UK. "ON OTHER HAND," THORSTEINSSON ADDED, "IF THERE IS REPEAT OF BRITISH RAMMINGS OF ICELANDIC CUTTERS, WE MUST GO FARTHER--AND BREAK DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS."

2. MORGUNBLADID, PRINCIPAL DAILY OF OTHER COALITION PARTNER, INDEPENDENCE PARTY, SHARPLY CONDEMNED LATEST RAMMING IN ITS REGULAR POLITICAL COLUMN: "THIS IS OBVIOUSLY VERY SERIOUS BEHAVIOR ON PART OF BRITISH, AND GOI MUST CONSIDER VERY CAREFULLY HOW TO REACT. THE BRITISH ACTION IS INCREDIBLY DEFIANT AND DOES NOT SUGGEST THAT THEY HAVE THE LEAST INTEREST IN AGREEMENT OR NEGOTIATIONS WITH ICELANDERS."

3. PEOPLES ALLIANCE DAILY THJODVILJINN REACTED TO LATEST EVENT IN FAMILIAR TERMS, CALLING FOR BREAK DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH THE UK AND CLOSE OF KEFLAVIK BASE.

4. PRIME MINISTER GEIR HALLGRIMSSON TOLD PRESS THAT SUNDAY'S RAMMING WOULD DOUBTLESS BE DISCUSSED AT CABINET MEETING TODAY. HOWEVER, HE POINTED OUT THAT THIS WAS A REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING AND HAD NOT BEEN CONVENED TO CONSIDER RAMMING. HE DECLINED FURTHER PUBLIC COMMENT ON SUBJECT; NO OTHER REACTIONS BY GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN REPORTED.  
OLASON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS INTERRUPTION, PRESS COMMENTS, FISHING DISPUTES, NAVAL SHIPS, FISHING BOATS, SHIP ACCIDENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 DEC 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750450-0319  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FISHERIES DISPUTE: PRESS WEIGHS RETALIATION FOR UK RAMMINGS  
**TAGS:** EFIS, PFOR, IC, UK, (HALLGRIMSSON, GIER)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006